

Currently Pending Claims:

1-57. (canceled)

58. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 80% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616, wherein said polypeptide induces chondrocyte re-differentiation.

59. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide of Claim 58 comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616, wherein said polypeptide induces chondrocyte re-differentiation.

60. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide of Claim 58 comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616, wherein said polypeptide induces chondrocyte re-differentiation.

61. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide of Claim 58 comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616, wherein said polypeptide induces chondrocyte re-differentiation.

62. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide of Claim 58 comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 99% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;

- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616, wherein said polypeptide induces chondrocyte re-differentiation.

63. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide; or
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616.

64. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 63 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59.

65. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 63 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide.

66. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 63 comprising the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59.

67. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 63 comprising the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:59, lacking its associated signal peptide.

68. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 63 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209616.

69. (previously presented) A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to Claim 58 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

70. (previously presented) The chimeric polypeptide of Claim 69, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is an epitope tag or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.